

## **Shirasaki Boat Cruises**

The dramatic limestone formations of the Shirasaki Coast are especially striking when viewed from the water. Sightseeing boat cruises afford panoramas of the rocky coastline and introduce its flora and fauna, including black-tailed gulls, hardy black pines, and native species of lily that thrive in coastal habitats.

Cruises depart from Obiki Fishing Harbor, heading north along the coast to Shirasaki Ocean Park. They stop at notable points along the way, including a limestone sea arch and islets that are breeding grounds for gulls. At Shirasaki Ocean Park, the boat skirts the limestone formations of the headland, their scale emphasized by the proximity. Short tours lasting 30 minutes return to the harbor at this point, while one-hour tours head on south to Yura Bay.

The tours are operated by the Obiki fishing community as part of a program of activities and workshops that introduce visitors to the lives and traditions of the local fishing community. Cruises use fishing boats captained by experienced fishermen who can answer questions and share anecdotes about the local area. Cruises can be combined with fish filleting and other experiences offered at the fishing harbor. Reservations are required for boat cruises and related activities.